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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Ayman MOKDAD et al.

U.S. Patent Appln. No.: New U.S. Patent Appln.
based on International Appln. No. PCT/FR01/02598

Filed: April 1, 2002

Attorney Dkt. No.: 01200.579

For: DIAPHRAGM ASSIST SPRING FOR MOTOR VEHICLE ENGINE CLUTCH
MECHANISM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 1, 2002

Sir :

Prior to the prosecution of the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendments.

IN THE TITLE:

Please add the following Title as follows:

a1

DIAPHRAGM ASSIST SPRING FOR MOTOR VEHICLE ENGINE CLUTCH
MECHANISM

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the following Abstract as follows:

a2

A diaphragm clutch mechanism for a motor vehicle engine having a friction lining adapted to be clamped with an annular diaphragm between a reaction plate and a pressure plate. A cover fixed to the reaction plate and integral in rotation with the pressure plate which is also mobile in axial translation relative to the reaction plate, and an assist mechanism includes a Belleville washer which co-operates with the diaphragm so that the load exerted on the pressure plate should be substantially constant whatever the degree of wear of the friction lining when the clutch mechanism is in engaged position. The assist